

Table 4-21. Housing and Education in the Region of Influence

Parameters	Alameda	San Joaquin	Contra Costa	ROI
Housing (2000)				
Total Units	540,183	189,160	354,577	1,083,920
Occupied Housing Units	523,366	181,629	344,129	1,049,124
Vacant Units	16,817	7,531	10,448	34,796
Vacancy Rate	3.1	4.0	2.9	3.2
Public Education (2002)				
Total School Enrollment	217,591	127,354	161,742	506,687

Source: Census 2000b; CAMIS 2002a

ROI: region of influence

of respirators). In the case of life-threatening injuries, SNL/CA has an arrangement with Valley Memorial Hospital in Pleasanton for emergency services (SNL/CA 2002b).

Fire Protection Services

SNL/CA does not maintain an onsite fire department. Through a memorandum of understanding, the LLNL Fire Station No. 1 will provide the primary emergency response to SNL/CA. The LLNL fire department responds to all alarms at SNL/CA and will respond to calls from SNL/CA's Central Alarm Station (which is manned 24 hours a day, 365 days a year). SNL/CA's fire protection personnel estimate that the LLNL fire department responds to calls at SNL/CA an average of 50 times per year (SNL/CA 2002b).

Police and Security Services

SNL/CA has a security force that is responsible for onsite security. Actions within the purview of the security force include badging and visitor clearances, securing the site and adjacent areas, responding to security threats, supporting building emergency team activities, and assisting in site evacuation. The security force's Security Supervisor is the primary liaison between the LLNL security force, the Alameda County Sheriff's Department, and the Livermore Police Department. The need for police services from the City of Livermore is infrequent, about once per year (SNL/CA 2002b).

4.15 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

4.15.1 DEFINITION OF THE RESOURCE

Environmental justice has been defined as the "fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies" (EPA 2002). Concern that minority and/or low-income populations might be bearing a disproportionate share of adverse health and environmental impacts led President

Clinton to issue an Executive Order (EO) in 1994 to address these issues. EO 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*, directs Federal agencies to make environmental justice part of their mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations. When conducting NEPA evaluations, the DOE incorporates environmental justice considerations into both its technical analyses and its public involvement program in accordance with the EPA and CEQ (CEQ 1997).

4.15.2 REGION OF INFLUENCE

The DOE selected the area within a 15-mi radius of the SNL/CA site as the ROI, an area that encompasses the City of Livermore and portions of three counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, and San Joaquin). The City of Tracy, which lies mostly outside of the 15-mi radius, was also included because a substantial number of SNL/CA employees live there. This ROI was selected because a majority of SNL/CA employees live within the three-county area; past analyses of potential impacts of releases of toxic gases and radionuclides showed that concentrations would be "negligible" at or beyond the site boundary; and assessments of the consequences of the worst credible accident at the SNL/CA site suggest that a 15-mi ROI is the appropriate area of analysis for environmental justice impact analysis (SNL/CA 2002b).

4.15.3 IDENTIFYING MINORITY AND LOW-INCOME POPULATIONS

Demographic information from the U.S. Census Bureau website was used to identify minority and low-income populations in the ROI. Information on locations and numbers of minority populations was obtained from the 2000 U.S. Census, while information on low-income populations was developed from the 1997 Economic Census (SNL/CA 2002b).

4.15.4 MINORITY POPULATIONS

Fifty census tracts with a total population of 287,611 lie wholly or partially within the ROI (SNL/CA 2002b). Of these, five census tracts (four of which are in Alameda County) have a higher percentage of minorities than the state of California as a whole (40.5 percent). The ROI has a higher percentage of whites (75.9 percent) than the state of California (59.5 percent). The City of Livermore, which lies in the approximate center of the ROI (the 15-mi radius), has an even higher percentage of whites (81.9 percent), and the City of Tracy, which lies mostly outside of the 15-mi radius has a lower percentage of whites (65.2 percent) than Livermore, but still higher than the state. Conversely, the ROI has a lower percentage of minorities than the state as a whole. The black population of the region of influence is 3.5 percent, versus 6.7 percent for the state of California. The ROI has a much smaller percentage of Hispanics (11.3 percent) than the State of California (32.4 percent). All indica-

tions are that the ROI is less racially diverse than the State of California as a whole, with a higher proportion of whites and a lower proportion of minorities.

4.15.5 LOW-INCOME POPULATIONS

Based on 1997 data, the percentage of the population below the poverty level was 11.8, 8.7, and 18.8 in Alameda, Contra Costa, and San Joaquin Counties, respectively (SNL/CA 2002b). In the State of California, approximately 16.0 percent of the population was below the poverty level. The ROI has a much lower percentage (2.5 percent) of people living below the poverty level than the State of California. These low poverty rates and other socioeconomic data (such as unemployment rates, median family incomes, per capita incomes, and levels of education) are indicative of a prosperous area with a thriving economy and highly-educated workforce, particularly in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties (Census 2000b; SNL/CA 2002b).

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